

# A new species of spider of the genus *Lutica* (Family Zodariidae) from India<sup>1</sup>

B. K. TIKADER AND M. S. MALHOTRA

Zoological Survey of India, Western Regional Station, Poona 411 005  
(With five text-figures)

The spiders of the family Zodariidae are little known from India. Simon (1905, 1906) and Gravely (1921) have described some species of the family from India. Recently Tikader & Patel (1975) described some new species of the genera *Storena* and *Lutica* from India. This is the second species of *Lutica* described from the Indian sub-continent.

The type specimen will in due course be deposited in the National Zoological Collection, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

## *Lutica deccanensis* sp. nov.

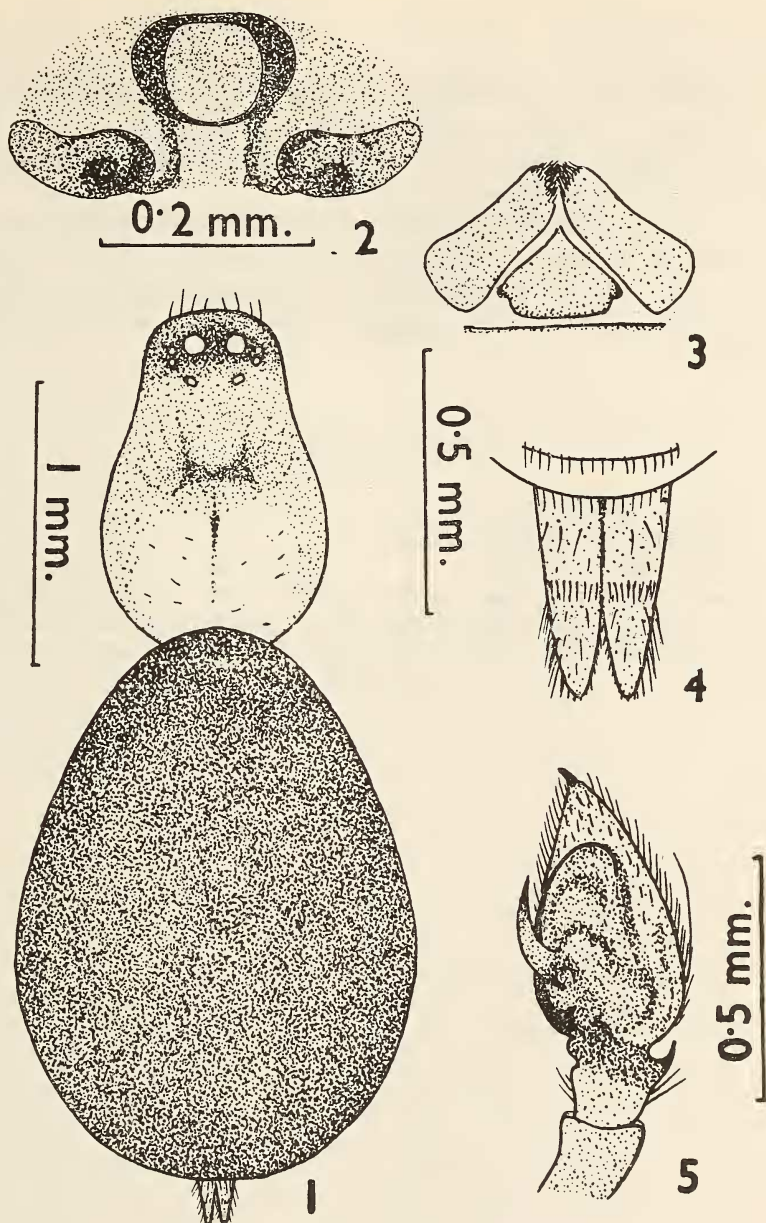
*General*: Cephalothorax and legs with brownish red tint and abdomen uniform brownish red in colour. Total length 3.10 mm, Cephalothorax 1.20 mm long, 0.80 mm wide; abdomen 2.00 mm long, 1.50 mm wide.

*Cephalothorax*: Longer than wide narrowing in front, cephalic region slightly high with rounded margin and provided with light brown patch in the centre as in text-figure 1. Eyes pearly white except anterior medians. Anterior row slightly recurved and anterior median eyes conspicuously larger than others and encircled by deep brown patch. Posterior row strongly procurved and posterior medians away from each other and more nearer to adjacent laterals. Both lateral eyes contiguous and nearly of same size. Legs long and moderately strong, clothed with fine hairs and some clavate hairs. Legs formula 4132. Sternum heart shaped, pointed behind, clothed with fine hairs. Labium and maxillae as in text-figure 3. Male nearly of same colour as female but slightly smaller in size. Male palp as in text-figure 5.

*Abdomen*: Longer than wide, nearly globular and wider behind the middle; slightly over-lapping on cephalothorax in front. Dorsal side uniform deep brownish red in colour, clothed with fine

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Figs. 1-5. *Lutica deccanensis* sp. nov.

1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted; 2. Epigyne; 3. Labium and maxillae;  
4. Spinnerets; 5. Male palp.

hairs and pubescence. Ventral side uniform pale coloured. The fore pairs of spinnerets are conspicuously long and other two pairs not developed properly as in text-figure 4. Epigyne as in text-figure 2.

*Holotype* one female, *allotype* one male in spirit.

*Type-locality*: Vetal Hill, Gokhale Nagar, Poona, Maharashtra, India. Coll. M. S. Malhotra, 21-vii-1974.

This species resembles *Lutica bengalensis* Tikader & Patel but is separated as follows: (i) Dorsal side of abdomen uniform brownish red in colour but in *L. bengalensis* dorsal side of abdomen uniform deep brown in colour. (ii) Epigyne and male palp also structurally different.

#### REFERENCES

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| <p>GRAVELY, F. H. (1921): The spiders and scorpions of Barkuda Island. <i>Rec. Indian Mus.</i> 22:400-421.</p> <p>SIMON, E. (1905): Voyage de M. Maurice Maindron dans l'Inde Meridional, Arachnides. <i>Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr.</i> 74:160-180.</p> | <p>————— (1906): <i>ibid.</i> 75:279-305.</p> <p>TIKADER, B. K. &amp; PATEL, B. H. (1975): Studies on some rare spiders of the family Zodariidae from India. <i>Bull. Arach. Soc., London</i> 3(5):137-139.</p> |
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